

II. SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, line 1 to page 6, line 3 as rewritten below:

Initially the MS 39 is in communication with BS 42 and MSC ~~44~~⁶ by means of a call 47 using the protocol of network NW1. When the MS moves away from the BS 42 it reaches a zone 48 where cells 40 and 41 overlap and the MS can communicate with both BS 42 and BS 45. Whilst the MS is in that overlap zone 48 it can be handed over from BS 42 to BS 45. The handover can be initiated by the mobile station, for example if it detects a greater signal strength or a lesser error rate for communications with BS 45 than with BS 42. Alternatively the handover can be initiated by the network, for example if it detects that communications between base-station 42 and mobile station 39 have a signal strength that falls below or an error rate that rises above pre-set thresholds, or if it is desired to free up capacity of base station 42 by handing the MS 39 off to BS 45.

The mobile station is capable of maintaining a call with a base-station of network NW1 at the same time as maintaining a call with a base-station of network NW2. Dual band mobile stations of this general type are well-known. Such mobile stations can make the normal location updates to both networks.

Once handover has been initiated, by the mobile station or the network, a second call 49 is established between the mobile station 39 and the MSC 46. This call passes over network NW1 via the base station 45. Meanwhile the original call 47 is maintained. Thus at this stage there are two calls in progress at once from the mobile switching centre of network NW~~2~~¹ to the

mobile station 39. Once the second call 49 has been established network NW1 routes the data formerly being carried by the original call 475 over the second call 49. Then the original call 45 can be released. The mobile station 39 then communicates with the mobile switching centre 44 of the network NW1 to which it was originally connected, only via a base station of network NW2. Thus the mobile station has in effect been handed off to network NW2, although the call is still routed through the MSC 446 of network NW1. If the call passed onward to the public telephone network 43 from the MSC 446 (rather than to another mobile station in network NW1, for example) then this arrangement could be inefficient. To overcome this there could be Provided means for optimising the routing of the call after handover has taken place, for example by routing the call to the public telephone network directly from the MCS of network NW2 rather than via that of NW1.